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there heds yf they shold come upon the same. No better profe they haue thereof but that the Hagans aforesaid are dwelling in the said Crannocke and upon their lands where upon Wednesday last in the evening yo<sup>r</sup> sup<sup>lis</sup> repaying by stealth did viewe and see them, and they haue the towne Earie of hawcks w<sup>th</sup> the said Phelyme had in purpose to bestow upon yo<sup>r</sup> Lp. & counsell.

“ This being the true reporte and declaracōn of this cause they leaue to yo<sup>r</sup> hono<sup>r</sup> consideraōn that w<sup>th</sup> concerneth the murder. But for themselves doe requyre order for there lands, goods, and creats w<sup>th</sup> saftie of there lives.

“ This is a true copie of the originall

“ Exper

“ MATH. DILLON Ult<sup>o</sup> die Junii 1593.”

The Countess of Tyrone did not live to witness the mortal struggle of her husband and brother. Her death took place in January, 1596, two years and a half before the “Jorney of the Black-water,” the Dyrrachium of those days, “ubi pulsus [Cæsar] non instante Pompejo, negavit eum vincere scire.”—*Suetonius*.

#### A LETTER FROM SIR CHARLES O'CARROLL TO LORD MOUNTJOY, LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

BY JOHN O'DONOVAN, ESQ., LL.D.

SIR CHARLES O'CARROLL, the writer of the following letter, was the third son, considered illegitimate, of Sir William O'Carroll, chief of Ely O'Carroll, in the present King's County (see “Annals of the Four Masters,” edited by O'Donovan, p. 1690). In 1582 he succeeded his brother John, who was murdered by his kinsman, Mulrony O'Carroll, in that year. In 1585 he attended Perrott's Parliament, held in Dublin in 1585, but not as an elected member of it, as the Four Masters thought. In 1588 he was knighted by Sir John Perrott.

In 1598 he and his followers committed a foul act of treachery towards some Ulstermen who were employed in his service as hired soldiers—thus told by the Four Masters, A. D. 1599:—

“Some gentlemen of the Mac Mahons, with one hundred soldiers, were hired by O'Carroll (Calvach, son of William Ower, son of Ferganaim) in the spring of this year; and at the time that their wages should be given them, O'Carroll with his people went to them by night and slew them on their beds, and in their lodging-houses. He hanged some of them from the nearest trees, but the party of one village made their escape, in despite of O'Carroll.”

In the next year O'Carroll and his people received just retribution for this foul massacre, as we are told by the same annalists, A. D. 1600. In the month of January this year, O'Neill (Hugh, son of Ferdoragh, son of Con Bacach) mustered his forces, and proceeded to the south of Ireland. Among various other territories he visited Ely O'Carroll—

“To revenge the base and intolerable massacre which O'Carroll had committed upon the gentlemen of the Mac Mahons of Oriell, whom he had under his protection, and in his service, in the preceding year. The evil destiny deserved by that wicked deed befell the territory of Ely on this occasion, for all its movable possessions, wealth, and riches were carried away, and nothing left in it but ashes instead of its corn, and embers in place of its mansions. Great numbers of their men, women, sons, and daughters were left in a dying and expiring state, and some gentlemen of his own tribe and kindred were left in opposition to O'Carroll in the territory.”

From these extracts Sir Charles O'Carroll's unfriendly notice of O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone, will be fully understood. He had written the latter, however, some years before this vengeance had overtaken him.

O'Carroll originally possessed the territories of Ely O'Carroll, Eliogarty, Ikerrin, Ileagh, in the present counties of Tipperary and King's County, and he thought that his family had been wrongfully deprived of some of these districts by the Ormonde family.

There are several respectable gentlemen of the O'Carrolls still in Ireland, but the present chief of the family is unknown. The senior branch removed to America in Cromwell's time, where the grandfather of the late Marchioness of Wellesley was the last of the senior line of the chiefs of Ely.

(Vol. 615, *Lambeth, Carew Collection.*)

“A breve note of certain territories subtracted and concealed by the Right honourable the Erle of ORMOND, from her most excellent m<sup>ty</sup>, imagining the said territories to be within his countie Pallentine<sup>1</sup> of Typpe-  
rarie, though ther be no coullor for it.

“First, Dow-Arra,<sup>2</sup> called the contre of Mac BrienArra.

“Item, O'Mulrian is contrè, called Wonymulrian<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> *Countie Pallentine*. — For a curious notice of Ormonde's Palatinate see Spenser's “View of the State of Ireland:” Dub., Ed. of 1809 p. 46. Spenser wished to have it abolished, but it continued till the reign of Queen Anne.

<sup>2</sup> *Dow-Arra*.—Now the barony of Ara, or Duharra, in the north-west of the county of

Tipperary. Mac I Brien Ara a branch of the O'Briens of Thomond, was the chief of this territory since about the year 1318. See “Leabhar na gCeart,” p. 78, note<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> *Wonymulrian*.—Uaithne Ui Mhaolrian, now the barony of Owney, O'Mulrian's territory, in the west of the county of Tipperary, adjoining the county of Limerick.

"Item, Keillanalongforta,<sup>1</sup> called Shane Glasse is contre.

"Item, Dow o-Loyagh,<sup>2</sup> called M<sup>c</sup>Walter is contre.

"Item, Muskryhyry,<sup>3</sup> now improperlye and usurpedly called the Heither Ormond. All which contrees, for the more parte extendinge to the Ryver of the Shenan, are of Thomond and not of Ormond, and were ever heretofore so reputed, knowen, and taken, untill of late subtracted as aforesaid, by the greatnesse, countenance, and extort power of the said Erle.

"And for the better manifestation that the said contrees have bene and ought to be of Thomond, so it is that the 2 provinces of Mounster have been divided into five territories, called the 5 Mounsters,<sup>4</sup> of which Towoyne, nowe called Thomond or the North Mounster is one, for Towoyne in Irish signifieth the North-Mounster in English.

"Item, Urwoyn beinge also an Irish word (wherof the said Erle at this day hath his name) is another Mounster which signifieth in English the front of the 2 provinces or Mounsters aforesaid, and is one of the 5 Mounsters or territories devided (as aforesaid), and bordureth uppon Leynster: for Urwoyn in Irish signifieth the front Mounster in English; which Urwoyn containeth in itself the counties of Typpary and cross of Typpary, which two counties do lye by south the said Muskryhyry and the rest of the subtracted contrees before recyted, being devided from the sayd Urwoyn by an auntient meare beginning at a mountaine called Barnan-Elye,<sup>5</sup> which extendeth on the south-east unto Iland Ivryck<sup>6</sup> otherwise called Carrick na Sury, which is one of the said Erles Mannor houses scytuated uppon the Ryver of the Suyr, so as all these territories thus subtracted are North-west of the said meare, and are of Right parte of Thomond, and so within the countie of Clare.

"And as to the other 3 Mounsters<sup>7</sup> the one whereof called Iharwoyn,

<sup>1</sup> *Keillanalongforta*, i. e. Coill na long-phorta.—The barony of Kilnalongurty, situated to the east of the barony of Owney, and to the south of the baronies of Ileagh and Upper Ormond, in the county of Tipperary. This barony is shown on Sir William Petty's engraved Map of the county of Tipperary. Who was Shane Glasse?

<sup>2</sup> *Dow-o-Loyagh*.—Duthaigh-Ua-Luigh-each, now the barony of Ileagh, containing the village of Borris-Ileagh, in the county of Tipperary. This barony, now a part of Eliogarty, is also shown on Sir William Petty's engraved Map.

<sup>3</sup> *Muskryhyry* comprised the baronies of Upper and Lower Ormond.—See "Leabhar na gCeart," p. 45.

<sup>4</sup> *Five Mounsters*.—See Keating's "History of Ireland," Haliday's edition, p. 138, where it is stated that tuadmham, Thomond or North Munster, extended from Leim Conchulainn, now Loophead, to Slighe Dala, now Ballaghmore in Ossory, and from Sliabh Echtghe to Sliabh Eibhlinne, now Slieve Phelim.

<sup>5</sup> *Barnan Elye*, i. e. the Gap of Ely.—Now the Devil's Bit Mountain.

<sup>6</sup> *Iland Ivryck*.—Sir Charles O'Carroll is here very wrong in making Island I-Vryck identical with Carrick-on-Suir. Keating describes Uprinumham, or Ormond, as extending from Gabran (Gowran) to Cnaim Choill, near the town of Tipperary, and from Bearnan Eile to Oilean Uí bhric, i. e. O'Brick's Island, which is an island near Bonmahon, in the county of Waterford (lámh na páipige éag, near the sea, in the South Decies). In the fragment of the Psalter of Cashel which belonged to Mac Richard Butler (p. 42, b), now preserved in the Bodleian Library, Laud, 610, Ormond is described as extending from Samhan to Gabran, and from the Oilean [but it should be beapnán] of Eile, to Oileán Uí bhric.

<sup>7</sup> *The other three Mounsters*—Keating describes these far better, as follows:—"The third part is called the Middle Munster. Its breadth is from Sliabh Eibhlinne (Slieve Phelim) to Sliabh Caoin (now Slieve Reagh,

signifieinge in English the farthermost Mounster; the other called Deswoyn is as much to say in English as Desmond or the South Mounster; and the thyrd called Meanwoyn signifieinge the Middle-Mounster in Englishe. Itharwoyne y<sup>e</sup> counties of Waterford and Yoyghill doth contayne . . . . . ; Deswoyne the countie of Cork and other territories; and Meanwoyne the counties of Kyery and Lymrick.

"I have thought it good Right honnorable, and I hoappe it shall not be taken a misse, syth I meane nothinge uppon spleane or malice, but to give, upon honnor, a taste of those thinges that may happen to put your honnor in minde of matters past, and to leve them to your honnorable consideration.

"As the loyaltie of the Erle of Ormond to her Majestie is not unknowen to your honnor, so in what case thinges may stand after his death, it is not a little to be doughted, consideringe that his Lp. hath no heyre male of his body to enherit, and howe those, indeede, that are next heysr unto him, and gape for the Erldome after his death, have heretofore demeaned themselves towardes her Majestie, I dare not say that they will showe themselves as they have bene. But how they will proove yf they were ones settled is to be feared, for my owne parte, as I wish I may lyve no longer then I remaine both a loyall and dutifull subiect to her Majestie, so I hoapp that it cannot be objected, sythence oure contre of Irlande grew to humilitie, that any of my auncestors have bene touched withe treason.

"If the Erle of Tyrone (as his fact well deserveth) were cutt off, who were then so mightie in Ireland as the Erle's [Ormond's] kindred, who degeneratinge from his Lp., yf they were once invested with that honnor, I will not say they would, but may well feare least they would follow their old Byas, and become as undutyfull as they have bene. And perhaps it boath is and wilbe needfull for her Majestie to have a duteful subiect nere them that may be a meanes to crosse their actions. I know not to what end the plott is laid and followed with such heat by his Lp. to cutt me off uppon so slight an occasion, yet consideringe with myself my owne loialtie (in which I hoappe by God's grace boathe I and myne shall contynue), and the occasion of suspition heretofore gyven by those who are lick to inheritt after his Lpp. it gyves me occasion to suspect that which I feare may followe. Beseechinge your honnor not to thincke in any disgrace to his Lpp., butt puttinge your honnor in mynde of thinges past, and seinge the danger of the present estate, your honnor may carry so indifferent a compt betwene us as the justnes of our deserts shall meritt. And thus with my herty prayer according to my bounden dutye I humbly end ffrom my chamber at London this present Monday, 1595.

"Your honour's &c.,

CH. O'CARROULE."<sup>1</sup>

Co. Limerick). The fourth, called Deas-Mhumhain (Desmond), extends from Sliabh Caoin southwards to the sea. The fifth division, called Iqumumum, West Munster, extends from Luachair Deaghaidh, westwards to the sea, and from Gleann O'Ruachta [Glenarought] to the Shannon."

<sup>1</sup> *O'Carroulle*.—The writer, as already ob-

served, was chief of Ely O'Carroll, a territory originally belonging to the province of Munster, and comprising the baronies of Clonlisk and Ballybritt in the King's county. It originally comprised the present baronies of Ikerrin and Eliogarty in the county of Tipperary. —See "Annals of the Four Masters," A. D. 1582, 1585, 1599, 1600.